

209-0580-0004

United States Department of the Interior
National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places
Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations for individual properties and districts. See instructions in *How to Complete the National Register of Historic Places Registration Form* (National Register Bulletin 16A). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the information requested. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, architectural classification, materials, and areas of significance, enter only categories and subcategories from the instructions. Place additional entries and narrative items on continuation sheets (NPS Form 10-900a). Use a typewriter, word processor, or computer, to complete all items.

1. Name of Property

historic name LAKE OF THE FOREST HISTORIC DISTRICT

other names/site number _____

2. Location


street & number Highway 32, approx. 9/10 mile west of Edwardsville Ks. ☒ not for publication

city or town Bonner Springs ☒ vicinity

state Kansas code KS county Wyandotte code 209 zip code 66012

3. State/Federal Agency Certification

As the designated authority under the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, I hereby certify that this ☒ nomination ☐ request for determination of eligibility meets the documentation standards for registering properties in the National Register of Historic Places and meets the procedural and professional requirements set forth in 36 CFR Part 60. In my opinion, the property ☒ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. I recommend that this property be considered significant ☐ nationally ☐ statewide ☒ locally. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)


Signature of certifying official/Title

D-SHPO

November 27, 1995

Date

Kansas State Historical Society

State of Federal agency and bureau

In my opinion, the property ☐ meets ☐ does not meet the National Register criteria. (☐ See continuation sheet for additional comments.)

Signature of certifying official/Title

Date

State or Federal agency and bureau

4. National Park Service Certification

I hereby certify that the property is:

☐ entered in the National Register.
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined eligible for the
National Register
☐ See continuation sheet.

☐ determined not eligible for the
National Register.

☐ removed from the National
Register.

☐ other, (explain:) _____

Signature of the Keeper

Date of Action

Lake of the Forest Historical District
Name of Property

Wyandotte County, Kansas
County and State

5. Classification

Ownership of Property

(Check as many boxes as apply)

- ☒ private
☐ public-local
☐ public-State
☐ public-Federal

Category of Property

(Check only one box)

- ☒ building(s)
☐ district
☐ site
☐ structure
☐ object

Number of Resources within Property

(Do not include previously listed resources in the count.)

Contributing	Noncontributing
3	buildings
	sites
7	structures
	objects
10	Total

Name of related multiple property listing

(Enter "N/A" if property is not part of a multiple property listing.)

N/A

Number of contributing resources previously listed in the National Register

0

6. Function or Use

Historic Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Industry/Processing/Extraction;

Processing Site; ice harvesting

Domestic; Camp; Seasonal residence

Social; Clubhouse

Recreation and Culture; Outdoor recreation
and Sports Facility

Transportation; Rail-related; railroad

Government; Post Office

Current Functions

(Enter categories from instructions)

Social; Clubhouse

Recreation and Culture; Outdoor Recreation
and Sports Facility

Government; Post Office

Landscape; Natural Feature;
Island and Lake

7. Description Landscape; Natural Feature; Island and Lake

Architectural Classification

(Enter categories from instructions)

Late Victorian, Shingle Style and Late 19th
and Early 20th Century American Movements

Craftsman Clubhouse

Other: Rectangular limestone gate house;
gable roof

Other: Rectangular limestone caretaker's
house; hipped roof

Other: Square brick pump house; hipped roof

Materials

(Enter categories from instructions)

foundation Stone: limestone; concrete

walls Stone: limestone; wood: Clapboard

Brick; Wood: Shingle

roof Asphalt shingles

other

Narrative Description

(Describe the historic and current condition of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

8. Statement of Significance

Applicable National Register Criteria

(Mark "x" in one or more boxes for the criteria qualifying the property for National Register listing.)

- ☒ **A** Property is associated with events that have made a significant contribution to the broad patterns of our history.
- ☐ **B** Property is associated with the lives of persons significant in our past.
- ☒ **C** Property embodies the distinctive characteristics of a type, period, or method of construction or represents the work of a master, or possesses high artistic values, or represents a significant and distinguishable entity whose components lack individual distinction.
- ☐ **D** Property has yielded, or is likely to yield, information important in prehistory or history.

Criteria Considerations

(Mark "x" in all the boxes that apply.)

Property is:

- ☐ **A** owned by a religious institution or used for religious purposes.
- ☐ **B** removed from its original location.
- ☐ **C** a birthplace or grave.
- ☐ **D** a cemetery.
- ☐ **E** a reconstructed building, object, or structure.
- ☐ **F** a commemorative property.
- ☐ **G** less than 50 years of age or achieved significance within the past 50 years.

Narrative Statement of Significance

(Explain the significance of the property on one or more continuation sheets.)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Bibliography

(Cite the books, articles, and other sources used in preparing this form on one or more continuation sheets.)

Previous documentation on file (NPS):

- ☐ preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested
- ☐ previously listed in the National Register
- ☐ previously determined eligible by the National Register
- ☐ designated a National Historic Landmark
- ☐ recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey

- ☐ recorded by Historic American Engineering Record # _____

Areas of Significance

(Enter categories from instructions)

Architecture

Landscape Architecture

Community Planning & Development

Transportation

Entertainment/Recreation

Industry

Period of Significance

c. 1888-c. 1934

Significant Dates

c. 1888, 1910, 1917

Significant Person

(Complete if Criterion B is marked above)

N/A

Cultural Affiliation

N/A

Architect/Builder

Chandler, C.A., landscape architect

Primary location of additional data:

- ☒ State Historic Preservation Office
- ☐ Other State agency
- ☐ Federal agency
- ☐ Local government
- ☐ University
- ☒ Other

Name of repository:

Kansas State Historical Society
Lake of the Forest Club

Lake of the Forest Historic District
Name of Property

Wyandotte County, Kansas
County and State

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of Property Approximately 50 acres

UTM References

(Place additional UTM references on a continuation sheet.)

1	14	3405126	4326140
Zone	Easting	Northing	
2	14	340840	4325924

3	14	340920	4325680
Zone	Easting	Northing	
4	14	341002	4325506

☐ See continuation sheet

Verbal Boundary Description

(Describe the boundaries of the property on a continuation sheet.)

Boundary Justification

(Explain why the boundaries were selected on a continuation sheet.)

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Michele M. Risdal, National Register Assistant

organization Kansas State Historical Society date June 23, 1995

street & number 120 West Tenth telephone 913-296-5264

city or town Topeka state KS zip code 66612

Additional Documentation

Submit the following items with the completed form:

Continuation Sheets

Maps

A **USGS map** (7.5 or 15 minute series) indicating the property's location.

A **Sketch map** for historic districts and properties having large acreage or numerous resources.

Photographs

Representative **black and white photographs** of the property.

Additional items

(Check with the SHPO or FPO for any additional items)

Property Owner

(Complete this item at the request of SHPO or FPO.)

name Lake of the Forest Corporation

street & number Lake of the Forest telephone _____

city or town Bonner Springs state Kansas zip code 66012

Paperwork Reduction Act Statement: This information is being collected for applications to the National Register of Historic Places to nominate properties for listing or determine eligibility for listing, to list properties, and to amend existing listings. Response to this request is required to obtain a benefit in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*).

Estimated Burden Statement: Public reporting burden for this form is estimated to average 18.1 hours per response including time for reviewing instructions, gathering and maintaining data, and completing and reviewing the form. Direct comments regarding this burden estimate or any aspect of this form to the Chief, Administrative Services Division, National Park Service, P.O. Box 37127, Washington, DC 20013-7127; and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reductions Projects (1024-0018), Washington, DC 20503.

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The Lake of the Forest Historic District (c. 1888-1934) is located 9/10 of a mile west of Edwardsville, in the vicinity of Bonner Springs in Wyandotte County, Kansas (pop. 6,680). The nominated area is comprised of portions of the NE4, S.27, T.11S, R. 23E broken down in the following manner: NW4, NW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SW4, NW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SE4, NW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E and NW4, SW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; NE4, SW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SE4, SW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E and NW4, SE4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SW4, SE4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E and NW4, NE4, SE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E. The property contains ten resources: limestone clubhouse (c. 1917), oldest retaining stone wall (c. 1888 and c. 1913), stone work at entrance of complex (c. 1911), gate house (c. 1911), caretaker's house (c. 1911), pump house (c. 1918), stone staircase (c. 1913-15), fountain (c. 1934), lake (c. 1888), and island (c. 1888). The nomination includes only the extant commonly held buildings and structures associated with the time of historical significance, which is the time period from 1888 until 1934.

The nominated buildings and structures are located south of the nominated lake and island. The community is developed on a 810 acre tract of land. The lake provides a natural boundary for the community to grow around. The houses are built up the west, north and east hillsides that frame the lake, Highway 32 acts as the southern boundary. A paved road circles the lake providing access to the houses and commonly held lake properties. The area is heavily populated with trees.

The common areas are composed of a 30 acre multi-spring-fed lake surrounded by many old homes and rock walls. The lake is supported by the lower dam and an upper dam/spillway, the dams and the upper lake are not included in the nomination. Above the spillway was once a small lake or settling pond. During the depression and World War II, the spillway silted up and was not dredged because of the high expense.

The core of the Lake of the Forest Historic District is the lake which was constructed in c. 1888 to harvest ice. During this time, the Union Pacific Railroad laid up stone walls south of the lake running east from the depot. Even though the lake had several owners, ice harvesting continued until c. 1909. Originally the lake was called Evelyn Lake, but in 1888 when John W. McDaniel acquired the land he changed the lake's name to Forest Lake.

In December of 1910, 810 acres were purchased as the Lake of the Forest Club. Soon after the property was purchased, the stone walls were added onto and the gate house, the caretaker's house, entrance structure, and stone staircase were constructed.

The wood and native limestone rock entrance structure is located southeast of the lake. It marks the entrance to the community off Highway 32. As the road travels north into the community, a limestone and wood gate house lies to the east of the road. Northeast of the gate house is the caretaker's house. This one-story limestone block house sits on a limestone foundation and is surmounted by a hipped roof with a hipped dormer gable at the apex of the roof. A native limestone staircase is located east of the lake. Limestone block steps with limestone abutments rise up the east hillside.

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By 1915 Club By-Laws indicate a monetary charge per member specifically for the purpose of building a "Clubhouse/Pavilion." The two-story, modified Shingle and Craftsman style clubhouse was built in 1917. The clubhouse contains a ballroom and stage, dining room, garden room, gathering room with stone fireplace, and a post office. A c. 1918 brick pump house lies southeast of the lake and clubhouse. A fountain was placed next to the clubhouse c. 1934.

The Lake of the Forest Historic District as a whole retains a high degree of architectural and structural integrity. The nominated buildings and structures lie south of the nominated lake. The community is developed on a 810 acre tract of land. The 30 acre multi-spring fed lake provides a natural boundary for the community to grow around. The lake is supported by the lower dam and an upper dam/spillway, which are not included in the nomination. Above the spillway was once a small lake or settling pond. Residences dating from the 1920s and 1930s, and later periods as well, are built up the west, north and east hillsides, Highway 32 acts as the southern boundary. A paved road circles the lake providing access to the houses and commonly held lake properties. The area is heavily populated with trees.

INVENTORY

1. Clubhouse (c. 1917) Contributing #209-0580-001

The massive two-story modified Shingle and Craftsman style clubhouse sits on an above ground limestone foundation, quarried on site, and is surmounted by a complex roof structure. The roof is composed of a gable roof with four hipped roof projections. A gently sloped gable roof is located on the southwest corner. The building's massing is expressed through its rusticated limestone base and shingled elevations. The building has a northern facade orientation that overlooks the lake.

The Lake of the Forest Clubhouse contains modified elements of both the Shingle and Craftsman styles. Through these styles, embellishments were reduced to a minimum to achieve an effect of unity. The elements of these two styles are combined to provide an unadorned and understated building that integrates itself fully into the surrounding landscape.

The principle facade faces north and is dominated by a ell-shaped porch that wraps around to the east elevation. Fourteen limestone block piers support a gently sloping hipped porch roof. A wooden balustrade composed of two horizontal rails terminated by limestone piers, with a row of vertical balusters between the rails spans the space between each pier. The northwest corner of the porch, in front of the dining room, was once screened, date removed unknown.

The east, west and south elevations of the clubhouse are sheathed in shingles and sit upon an above ground limestone foundation pierced with double hung sash windows. Two chimneys rise from the southeast corner of the building.

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Fenestration is composed primarily of double hung sash windows. In 1986, the double hung sash windows in the dining room were replaced by large panes of glass over an open cut casement windows.

The interior of the first and second floors retain their original floorplan. The building is entered from the north side of the porch through a door. The door opens to a small rectangular hallway that runs approximately eight feet into a small vestibule with a coat closet and stairway to the basement. Double lattice doors on the west wall of the hallway lead to the dining room and an entry on the east lead to the main gathering room.

Windows cover the north and west walls of the dining room. The windows are defined by one large pane over an open cut casement window. The windows were originally double hung sash, but were replaced in 1986. Two swinging doors in the center of the south wall lead to the kitchen. The door and window surrounds throughout the house are defined with a flat profile. Original knotty-pine panelling covers the dining room walls.

The main gathering room is located east of the hallway. A large, native, limestone fireplace with a massive stone mantle dominates the room. A large pane window with a 8/1 double hung sash window on either side of it covers the north wall and overlooks the lake. A c. 1925 sales brochure indicates that the large window replaces two doors, date removed unknown.

To the south of the main gathering room is a small bar and lounge referred to as the garden room. The floor is covered with wide wooden planks. Two double hung sash windows pierce the south wall.

The kitchen may be entered through a single swinging door from the bar area or from the previously mentioned double doors in the dining room. It is a large rectangular room with a slight ell that leads to the pantry/storage and on into the dining room. None of the cabinets, woodworking, or appliances are original.

The large ballroom/pavilion is located east of the main gathering room and is entered through double doors in the gathering room or double doors in the bar. The south and east elevations are enclosed with double hung sash and pane windows. Five doors lead out to the porch. An elevated stage with original footlights is located on the south wall with two storage/staging areas on either side.

The second story is accessed by a stairway in the center of the building. Steep steps lead to an open area overlooking the ballroom below and to the bathrooms. Off the open area is an apartment. A hallway extends in the apartment to four bedrooms and a bath.

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The basement is composed of several large storage areas and rooms. At different periods these rooms have housed a teen room, grocery store, weight room, and day care. An original post office is located in the basement and operates as a full service post office. The post office is only accessed from the outside on the south facade through double doors located three steps down.

2. Oldest Retaining Stone Wall (c. 1888 and c. 1913) Contributing

A native limestone block wall is laid up south of the lake. The wall ran east from the depot. The wall was constructed by the Union Pacific Railroad c. 1888. The wall maintains a high degree of architectural integrity.

The wall was extended in 1913 by the Kaw Valley and Western Railway Company. A contract dated September 13, 1913 specified "not less than 50 feet northwest of similar construction and said retaining wall shall be sufficient height to extend 2 1/2 feet above the road bed." The wall was extended to the road east of the depot to a pillar topped with an ornamental urn.

3. Stone Work at Entrance of Complex (c. 1911) Contributing

A wood and native limestone rock entrance structure is located southeast of the lake. It marks the entrance to the community and is located off Highway 32. The structure is composed of two square, limestone rock columns on either side of the road leading into the community. A square, narrow, wooden column rises from the center of each limestone column. A wooden lintel, connected to the wooden columns, spans the space between the columns. The lintel is adorned with wooden letters, painted in a contrasting color, that spell out "LAKE OF THE FOREST." The entrance structure maintains a moderate degree of architectural integrity.

The entrance structure is one of a series of communal structures that was built after Lake of the Forest Club was chartered. The project was supervised by one of the Lake of the Forest members, C. A. Chandler. C. A. Chandler was the Landscape Gardener of Kansas City, Missouri's Swope Park and a member of the Lake of the Forest Club's first Board of Directors.

A c. 1925 photograph indicates that the entrance structure was originally surmounted by a metal boxed lintel with interior metal lettering, date removed unknown. The photograph also shows that the structure had arched stone walls to the south, defining the incoming road. The stone walls were removed when Highway 32 was widened.

4. Gate House (c. 1911) Contributing

A one-story, gable roof limestone block gate house sits on a limestone foundation. The building has a western facade orientation. The gable roof extends over the facade creating a porch. Four limestone block columns hold up the gable roof. A door with a 1/1 double hung sash window on

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either side pierces the facade. The north and south elevations are pierced by two 1/1 double hung sash windows. The building maintains a high degree of architectural integrity.

The building is located on the entrance road, north of the entrance structure. A small, native limestone block and wood, gable roof structure lies south of the gate house in the middle of the road. Windows pierce every elevation. The two buildings, located at the entrance, provide security and monitoring of the people coming into the private community. The construction of the buildings were supervised by C. A. Chandler

5. Caretaker's House (c. 1911) Contributing

A one-story, limestone block caretaker's house sits on an above ground, limestone block foundation. The building is surmounted by a hipped roof with a hipped dormer gable at the apex of the roof. Each side of the hipped dormer is pierced by four small windows. The limestone block walls are stuccoed down to the foundation. The building has a western facade orientation. A door with a 1/1 double hung sash window on either side pierces the facade. The north and south elevations are pierced by three 1/1 double hung sash windows. The basement is pierced with two 1/1 double hung sash windows on the north and south elevations.

A wooden porch dominates the west facade of the building. Four square, wooden columns support a gable roof. A wooden balustrade composed of two horizontal rails terminated by columns, with a row of vertical balusters between the rails spans the space between each column. Limestone rock columns support the front two corners of the porch. The porch is accessed from the west by ten wooden steps.

The caretaker's house maintains a high degree of architectural integrity. The building is located southeast of the lake and northeast of the gate house. The construction of the building was supervised by C. A. Chandler.

6. Pump House (c. 1918) Contributing

A one-story, brick pump house sits on a concrete foundation and is surmounted by an asphalt shingled, hipped roof. The building has a southern facade orientation. A double, wooden plank door pierces the facade. A window filled with wooden plank shutters pierces the east and west elevations. The building maintains a high degree of architectural integrity.

The pump house lies southeast of the lake and northwest of the gate house. Prior to the construction of the pump house, residents relied on numerous wells around the lake. The pump house was restored in 1986.

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7. Stone Staircase (c. 1913-15) Contributing

A native limestone staircase is located east of the clubhouse and lake. Limestone block steps with limestone block abutments rise up the east hillside. The steps are located between two private residences. The construction of the staircase was supervised by C. A. Chandler.

8. Fountain (c. 1934) Contributing

A pond and concrete fountain lies east of the clubhouse. The fountain is composed of a two tiered scalloped shell placed on a pedestal. A cherub holding a jug is placed on top. The fountain sits in a concrete pond. The diameter of the pond is 14.5'. The walls of the pond are decorated with four concrete flower pots.

9. Lake (c. 1888) Contributing

A 30 acre multi-spring-fed lake composes the core of the community and a boundary for the community to grow around. The lake is supported by the lower dam and an upper dam/spillway, not included in the nomination. At one time above the spillway was a small lake or settling pond. Houses are built up the west, north and east hillsides. A paved road circles the lake providing access to the houses and communal lake properties.

The lake was created in 1888 when Henry Harrison dammed Mission Creek to harvest ice. Harrison named the body of water Lake Evelyn after his daughter. When John W. McDaniel acquired the land on June 18, 1884, he changed the name to Lake Forest. In the off season, the lake was used for summer water activities. When ice harvesting stopped c. 1909, the lake was used solely for recreational purposes.

10. Island (c. 1888) Contributing

An island is located roughly in the center of the lake. It was the high point when the lake was dammed in 1888. Limestone blocks define the island. The limestone block walls were used to stop the erosion of the island. They were reconstructed in 1993. Historic photographs indicate that in the 1920s sheep grazed the island to keep the grass short. The annual Lake of the Forest fireworks display are launched from the island.

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The Lake of the Forest Historic District (c. 1888-1934) is located approximately 9/10 of a mile west of Edwardsville along Highway 32. The Lake of the Forest properties are being nominated to the National Register under criteria A and C for its historical association with the growth and development of the Lake Forest community and for its architectural significance as a composite grouping of relatively intact commonly held lake resources. The Lake of the Forest stands along the former Kansas City Inter-Urban Electric Line in Bonner Springs. The lake was created in 1888 and was used to harvest ice for the Union Pacific Railroad until 1909. The thirty-acre lake, known as Evelyn Lake until 1909, also provided recreational opportunities to the community at large until it was purchased by the Lake of the Forest Corporation. What began as a recreational club developed into a planned, lake front community for Kansas City, Kansas commuters. Lake of the Forest is one of several early twentieth century lake communities in the Kansas City metropolitan area.

The area of the Lake of the Forest that is being nominated is comprised of portions of the NE4, S.27, T.11S, R. 23E broken down in the following manner: NW4, NW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SW4, NW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SE4, NW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E and NW4, SW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; NE4, SW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SE4, SW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E and NW4, SE4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SW4, SE4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E and NW4, NE4, SE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E, in Wyandotte County. The property contains ten resources: limestone clubhouse (c. 1917), oldest retaining stone wall (c. 1888 and c. 1913), stone work at entrance of complex (c. 1911), gate house (c. 1911), caretaker's house (c. 1911), pump house (c. 1918), stone staircase (c. 1913-15), fountain (c. 1934), lake (c. 1888), and island (c. 1888).

The nominated buildings and structures are located south and east of the nominated lake and island. The community is developed on a 810 acre tract of land. The lake provides a natural boundary for the community to grow around. Residences dating from the 1920s and 1930s, and later periods as well, are built up the west, north and east hillsides, Highway 32 acts as the southern boundary. A paved road circles the lake providing access to the houses and commonly held lake properties. The area is heavily populated with trees.

The common areas are composed of a 30 acre multi-spring-fed lake surrounded by many old homes and rock walls. The lake is supported by the lower dam and an upper dam/spillway. At one time a small lake or settling pond was above the spillway, the dams and the small lake are not included in the nomination. During the depression and World War II, the spillway silted up and was not dredged because of the high expense.

HISTORY

In June of 1888, the Northeast quarter of Section 27 plus another 11.28 acres south was deeded from Fitzpatrick and Edmond K. O'Brien to Henry Harrison. Harrison borrowed \$20,000 from John W. McDaniel, a prominent financier in Bonner Springs and Kansas City, to make this purchase. At the time of purchase, a railroad right of way on the property was granted to the Union Pacific

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Railroad. The railway had a 30 foot right of way/spur along the south side of the lake.

Shortly after Mr. Harrison bought the land, he entered into an agreement with Edward Swift and the Union Pacific Railroad to build a dam on the site creating an artificial lake to harvest ice. Harrison named the body of water Lake Evelyn after his daughter. The November 21, 1888 edition of the Kansas City Daily Gazette notes that "Evelyn Lake dam was completed and about 25 acres filled with water. When finished it will cover 40 acres."

Harrison ran the operation by having the ice pulled out of the lake by horses. It was then packed in straw and put in the storage houses. The storage houses were located near the railway spur, east of the lake where the main road is today. This venture provided much needed employment in the area. One hundred car loads of ice per day were shipped, in season, on the Union Pacific Railroad. In December of 1888, Mr. Harrison received two car loads of lumber to build a boarding house. The boarding house served as the first community center for Lake of the Forest.

When ice harvesting was out of season, the lake was used for recreational activities. At one time a hotel and airport to accommodate summer guests was planned. John W. McDaniel was deeded the land on June 18, 1884 because Harrison was guilty of breach of contract/loan obligation. Ice harvesting, though, continued on the lake until c. 1909.

Upon ownership transfer, McDaniel changed the lake's name to Forest Lake. By 1892, Swift & Company and The Armour Company installed machines to produce artificial ice. However, Superintendent George W. Tourtellotte of the Armour Company said he would "take all the natural ice available. Forest Lake's ice house was one of the largest in the country and it was expected to build another." (Hodson, sec. 8, p. 2) The Forest Lake icehouse and another one at Bean Lake were reported in an article in The Kansas City Gazette Monday, January 11, 1892 to be the largest in the country. It was reported that Swift and Company shipped a train load of men to harvest and store the ice on that Monday. The article stated that if the season was favorable, other ice houses would be built on these sites.

McDaniel wanted to tie the surrounding area to Kansas City. So, on July 25, 1901, he deeded a fifty foot right of way to The Kansas City, Lawrence & Topeka Railway Company, a corporation of Wyandotte County, Kansas. McDaniel and J. D. Waters, a prominent businessman in the area and on the Bonner Springs Board of Directors, began raising funds for the Inter-Urban Electric Line. Waters and McDaniel pledged \$10,000, Kansas City, Kansas merchants pledged \$25,000, and the rest came from property right of way owners. The first link from Bonner Springs to Lake Forest was finished in December of 1907. On June 18, 1908, the line from Bonner Springs to Lake Forest was completed. With the completion of the line, people from Bonner Springs came to Lake Forest for daily water activities and picnicking in the summer. There were two schedules in the morning and two in the afternoon.

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On June 24, 1908, it was announced that McDaniel would sell most of his Forest Lake interests to J. D. Waters, W. H. Caffery of Bonner Springs Portland Cement Company, and L. G. Frisbie, who borrowed the money from L. P. Kindred. The following summer, 1909, the boarding house (c. 1888) added a screened porch. The porch provided an area for the new owners to open a dining hall to provided meals and lunches for picnics. The boarding house became the first community center and served as the focal point of lake social life. People gathered at the community center for dining, relaxation out of the sun, and evening dances.

In 1909, work began to extend the Intern-Urban from Kansas City to Topeka. On August 3, 1909, W. H. Caffery, now president of the newly formed Kansas City Kaw Valley & Western Railway Company announced to the Kansas City Star that a charter was obtained on July 28, 1909 to extend the electric railway from Bonner Springs to Topeka and from Lake Forest to Eighteenth Street and Minnesota Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas where it would connect with the Metropolitan Street Railway. The Company's intent was to purchase the existing line from Bonner Springs to Lake Forest, first extending to Kansas City, Kansas and then if successful to Topeka.

"The interurban line was a factor in the future industrial growth of Bonner Springs in that it provided heretofore unavailable transportation and therefore an opportunity of commuting to a Kansas City job. This, of course, was not applicable to all workers of the community but to a large enough proportion to lessen motivation to attract more and more industry. The new convenience of the electric train also acted as a stimulus to the buying and renting into the Lake Forest by upper middle class residents of Kansas City. The small, exclusive community is situated on the ridge overlooking the Kaw Valley about two miles east of Bonner Springs. It was launched by a group of Kansas City business men in 1910." (Deonier, p. unknown)

In the summer of 1910 there were articles in The Chieftain billing activities at the Lake such as tennis, golf, and water activities "free of charge" and stating this was the last chance for the public to enjoy recreation at the lake before it became a "private" club. Lake Forest, at this time, had a refreshment stand behind the boat house on the west shore selling ice cream and cold drinks. The boat house and dock had 20 flat boats available for rent.

On December 9, 1910 Waters, Kindred and Frisbie purchased 810 acres described in the Plat as "The Lake of the Forest Club" for \$50,000. The Club Charter was filed in the Secretary of State office in Topeka on December 21, 1910. The 1910 Club Charter was part of a nationwide movement to provide summer retreats for businessmen's families. The term used was "Chautauqua" a popular lyceum and amusement enterprise of the late 19th and early 20th century. These retreats were generally found thirty to fifty miles from a city, and wives and children would stay the summer with the businessmen joining them every weekend.

Soon after the property was purchased, the stone walls were added onto and the gate house, the caretaker's house, and the stone staircase were built. The project was supervised by one of the Lake

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of the Forest members, C. A. Chandler. C. A. Chandler was the Landscape Gardener of Kansas City, Missouri's Swope Park and a member of the Lake of the Forest Club's first Board of Directors.

At the end of 1911, J. D. Waters sold the Common Areas to the Lake of the Forest Club and held all the unsold lots, which were approximately 200 in number. Although, J. D. Waters continued to serve on the Board of Directors at the Lake, in the spring of 1913 he purchased McDaniel's interest in the Kansas City, Kaw Valley & Western Railway and in a letter to the Bonner Springs Chieftain professed to "Head the line as President supported by one of the largest Interurban Street Car Companies in the West."

The Lake owners made new demands in a 1913 revision of the 1910 contract with the railway. Some of the demands were to provide ornamental wire or iron gates, maintain the sulfur spring and approach thereto in suitable condition for the use of persons going to and from said spring, erect at its own expense a substantial depot of stone, cement or brick at the option of the Club within ninety days after the Club designates the site, and to construct and maintain a suitable spur to the ice house.

Many prominent Kansas City residents were property owners at the Lake of the Forest Club. Eugene Jaccard of the Jaccard Jewelry Company; C. A. Chandler, landscape gardener for the Kansas City, Missouri's Swope Park; and Harry Darby, president of Missouri Boiler Works were just a few.

Waters sold some of the lots on an individual basis. The abstract indicates on October 2, 1916 Waters, Kindred and Frisbie sold the balance or 123 lots to Lake of the Forest Club for \$6,500. On July 23, 1914 the railway line was completed to Kansas City, Kansas anticipating the extension to Lawrence within a year. On Opening Day the Line carried 1,500 passengers at an average speed of 40 miles per hour. The line carried passengers through the 1940s and freight into the 1960s. This new convenience enabled the Lake of the Forest Club to prosper.

By 1915 Club By-Laws indicate a monetary charge per member specifically for the purpose of building a "Clubhouse/Pavilion." The two-story, modified Shingle and Craftsman style clubhouse was built in 1917. The clubhouse contains a ballroom and stage, dining room, garden room, gathering room with stone fireplace, and a post office. When the new clubhouse was completed, the boarding house was dismantled, and the site was marked with a bronze plaque in memory of J. D. Waters, founder of the Lake of the Forest Club.

A c. 1925 sales brochure advertised the Lake of the Forest as a place accessible for the Kansas City working man and practical for the summering family. "Here the business men of Kansas City bring their wives and children during the hot summer months, when life is very uncomfortable in the big city. Here they leave their wives and children in snug cottages sheltered by leafy trees and exposed to cooling breezes that blow up and down the valley, while they drive to Kansas City to attend business during the day. Yet, this cool spot is so well located that they are always able to return in

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the evenings to be with their families." At a time when many families left the summer heat for Wisconsin or Colorado summer lodgings, the Lake of the Forest provided convenience for the businessman and activities for the family.

In 1925, about 150 members composed the Lake of the Forest Club. The price of lots varied from \$800 to \$1000 according to size and location. The lots were irregular in shape, approximately sixty by one hundred feet. Thirty lots, at this time, were for sale. The annual dues were \$100 a year, which included all privileges of the Club.

The dues provided many activities for its members. "Recreation facilities are not stinted at the Lake of the Forest Club. Golf bugs infest the 9-hole course at the top of the hills; tennis enthusiasts take advantage of the clay courts near the Clubhouse; the winding roads, lined with trees and shrubbery are ideal for hiking and riding; and there is a baseball field where many games are played during the season." (1925 Sales Brochure)

Full time residents began living at the lake between 1920 and 1925, but it was not until 1930 that a number of year round homes with heat began appearing. In c. 1934, the fountain was placed in front of the clubhouse.

ARCHITECTURE

The Lake of the Forest Clubhouse contains modified elements of both the Shingle and Craftsman styles. Through these styles, embellishments were reduced to a minimum to achieve an effect of unity. The elements of these two styles are combined to provide an unadorned and understated building that integrates itself fully into the surrounding landscape.

"Unlike most of the 19th-century styles that preceded it, the Shingle does not emphasize decorative detailing at doors, windows, cornices, porches or on wall surfaces. Instead it aims for the effect of a complex shape enclosed within a smooth surface (the shingled exterior) which unifies the irregular outlines of the house. Most variants and details are designed to enhance either the irregularity of the shape or the uniformity of the surface. Decorative detailing, when present, is used sparingly." (McAlester, p. 289-290)

The Craftsman style was the dominant style for smaller houses built throughout the country during the period from 1905 until the early 1920s. The Craftsman style is characterized by low pitched, gable roofs (occasionally hipped) with wide, unenclosed eave overhangs; multiple roof planes; a full porch supported by columns; gable dormers; and lines of three or more windows.

The stone wall, entrance structure, gate house, caretaker's house and staircase are all constructed of native limestone, quarried on site. These rustic style lake structures were designed to blend in with and not intrude upon the environment. Colors such as warm browns were used to subordinate the structures to their settings as would horizontal lines and silhouettes. Building materials were to

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have the qualities of ruggedness, durability, practicality, and nativeness in order to create the impression of the building as a natural outgrowth of the landscape itself.

"Successfully handled it is a style which, through the use of native materials in proper scale and through the avoidance of severely straight lines and over-sophistication, gives the feeling of having been executed by pioneer craftsmen with limited hand tools. It thus achieves sympathy with natural surroundings and with the past." (Good, p. unknown)

A wood and native limestone block entrance structure is located southeast of the lake. It marks the entrance to the community off Highway 32. As the road travels north into the community, a limestone and wood gate house lies to the east of the road. Northeast of the gate house is the caretaker's house. This one-story limestone block house sits on a limestone foundation and is surmounted by a hipped roof with a hipped dormer gable at the apex of the roof.

South of the lake is a limestone block wall constructed by the Union Pacific Railroad in 1888. A native limestone staircase is located east of the Clubhouse and lake. Limestone block steps with limestone abutments rise up the east hillside. A brick pump house lies southeast of the lake and northwest of the gate house.

The Lake of the Forest stands along the former Kansas City Inter-Urban Electric Line in Bonner Springs. What began as a recreational club developed into a planned, lake front community for Kansas City, Kansas commuters. Developed as a summer community in 1910, it continued actively through the 1920s and by the 1930s was a full times resident community. Today, the communal properties of the Lake of the Forest are maintained through yearly club dues. The Inter-Urban Electric Line that allowed the community to prosper carried passengers through the 1940s and freight into the 1960s. Only the commonly held lake resources were nominated at this time, but some residences that surround the lake are eligible for National Register listing on their accord.

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VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

The Lake of the Forest Historic District is comprised of portions of the NE4, S.27, T.11S, R. 23E broken down in the following manner: NW4, NW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SW4, NW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SE4, NW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E and NW4, SW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; NE4, SW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SE4, SW4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E and NW4, SE4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E; SW4, SE4, NE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E and NW4, NE4, SE4, S.27, T.11S, R.23E. The Lake of the Forest Historic District is located 9/10 of a mile west of Edwardsville, in the vicinity of Bonner Springs, Wyandotte County, Kansas. The nominated district is located in an irregular ten sided geometric shape that touches Highway 32 at its most southern point. The approximate 50 acre tract of land encompasses ten buildings and structures which comprise the commonly held lake resources. The approximate 50 acre tract represent the communal resources of Lake of the Forest, which are within a 810 acre tract of land. The nominated property is surrounded by hills to the north, west and east. These hills provide a natural boundary and Highway 32 bounds the south. The district is represented on the Edwardsville quadrangle map that is included as part of the nomination by AB-BC-CD-DE-EF-FG-GH-HI-IA.

BOUNDARY JUSTIFICATION

The Lake of the Forest Historic District is located 9/10 of a mile west of Edwardsville, in the vicinity of Bonner Springs in Wyandotte County, Kansas. The district is located within an irregular ten sided geometric shape that touches Highway 32 at its most southern point and includes a approximate 50 acre tract that encompasses the ten buildings and structures that comprise the communal resources of Lake of the Forest. The approximate 50 acre tract represents the commonly held resources of Lake of the Forest, which are within a 810 acre tract of land. The nominated property is surrounded by hills to the north, west and east. These hills provide a natural boundary and Highway 32 bounds the south.

